



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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May 12, 2015


The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

38 May 12, 2015


PATRICK OGAWA
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ORDINANCE TO RESTRICT COMMERCIAL VEHICLE USE ON SAND CANYON ROAD (SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

This action is to establish an ordinance to restrict commercial vehicles with three or more axles or a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination vehicle weight rating of 9,000 pounds or more from operating on Sand Canyon Road between Sierra Highway and the City of Santa Clarita boundary line.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the ordinance is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act.
2. Introduce, waive reading, and place the ordinance on a subsequent agenda for adoption.
3. Approve the ordinance adding Section 15.48.016 to Title 15 - Vehicles and Traffic of the Los Angeles County Code to restrict commercial vehicles with three or more axles or a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination vehicle weight rating of 9,000 pounds or more from operating on Sand Canyon Road between Sierra Highway and the City of Santa Clarita boundary line.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to improve traffic safety and enhance traffic flow. The request for this weight limit restriction was generated by a resident of the unincorporated Canyon Country area who expressed her concern to Mayor Michael D. Antonovich that trucks using Sand Canyon Road as a bypass from the 14 Freeway to Sierra Highway create an unsafe condition for motorists due to the roadway's narrow and winding characteristic. By Motion of the Board, Public Works was directed to determine alternatives to restricting or limiting the use of Sand Canyon Road by large commercial vehicles.

In consultation with the City of Santa Clarita, the California Highway Patrol, and the Sheriff's Department, we recommend the following restriction for Sand Canyon Road:

A person shall not drive a commercial vehicle with three (3) or more axles or a gross vehicle weight or a combined gross weight of 9,000 pounds or more on Sand Canyon Road between Sierra Highway and the City of Santa Clarita boundary line. These axle and weight restrictions shall not apply to the following:

- Those vehicles described in Section 15.48.030, Exceptions to Restrictions.
- A vehicle operated by a government agency.
- A commercial vehicle involved in a motion picture, commercial, or television production conducting motion picture, commercial, or television production activities in areas that are accessible only from that portion Sand Canyon Road specified above.

We have consulted with the City of Santa Clarita since a portion of this route is within their jurisdiction. We have received their support for the restriction and they are also adopting the same weight limit restriction for their segment. This ordinance is contingent upon the City adopting the same weight limit restriction for their jurisdiction.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Integrated Services Delivery (Goal 3) as this action will improve traffic safety and improve the quality of life for residents along the affected route.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund. Sufficient funds are included in the Road Fund Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget to cover the minor costs of removing and installing the necessary signs.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

A commercial vehicle refers to any vehicle as defined in Section 260 of the California Vehicle Code. The manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating is defined in Section 350 of the California Vehicle Code. A local authority can restrict the use of a highway by certain vehicles per Section 21101(c) of the California Vehicle Code. A local authority can prohibit the use of a street by any commercial vehicle exceeding a gross maximum weight limit per Section 35701 of the California Vehicle Code.

The enclosed ordinance adds Section 15.48.016 to Title 15: Vehicles and Traffic of the Los Angeles County Code and provides a restriction of commercial vehicles with three or more axles or a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination vehicle weight rating of 9,000 pounds or more from operating on Sand Canyon Road.

The enclosed analysis of this ordinance has been approved by County Counsel.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The establishment of this ordinance, including the installation of related traffic control devices required to notify the motoring public, are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15301(c) of the CEQA guidelines and Class 1(x)7 of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines approved by the Board on November 17, 1987.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

No impact on current services or projects is expected.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter and a copy of the enclosures to the Department of Public Works, Traffic and Lighting Division. Also, please forward adopted copies of this letter to the California Highway Patrol Newhall office.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Farber".

GAIL FARBER

Director

GF:DRL:sm

Enclosures

- c: Chief Executive Office (Rochelle Goff)
- County Counsel (Erik Conard)
- Executive Office
- California Highway Patrol (Newhall Office)